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Not content destroying Milwaukee County, Walker eyes bigger train wreck

As Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker continues to drive the machinery of government that is his responsibility deeper into dysfunction -- despite the often-heroic efforts of front-line workers to save a sinking ship -- his ambitions clearly are set on destroying public services statewide.

In a Nov. 2 conference call with reporters, Walker makes clear his first priority if somehow elected governor wouldn't be to find innovative new ways to make government work better. His first priority would be to go after the wages of front-line workers while handing out tax breaks to rich people and big banks.

"Walker might think that the people who put their lives on the line every day to protect the health and welfare of Wisconsin citizens deserve a pay cut so Walker can give tax breaks to the wealthy, but he could not be more out of touch," said Marty Beil, executive director of the Wisconsin State Employees Union, AFSCME Council 24.

"His prescription for Milwaukee County has been to wreck services so badly that the state has had to step in repeatedly just to make sure vital functions don't collapse completely. Who can we call on to save us when he starts destroying the entire state?" Beil asked.

"We know he thinks the private sector can do no wrong while public employees aren't worth paying a decent wage. Perhaps once he wrecks public services he can call on his buddies at AIG or Goldman Sachs to use some of their federal bailout billions to bail him out of trouble," Beil said.

"Of course, in Walker's world, bailouts and tax breaks are for CEOs, not working people. I'm surprised he didn't suggest outsourcing all state workers to China. That's the logical extension of his thinking -- to the extent there is any logic there at all," Beil said.

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